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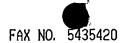
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Reply to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment date mailed January 15, 2004.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re application of:

Michel L.P.M. Verhoeven

Art Unit: 3763

Appl. No.: 09/721,881

Examiner: S. J. Jackson

Filed:

November 27, 2000

Atty. Docket: P4566 US

For:

Stents and Methods for Preparing Stents from Wires

having Hydrogel Coating Layers Thereon

AMENDMENT

MS Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sirs:

In response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed January 15, 2004, please amend the application as follows.